

The Museum of forgotten memories by Anstey Harris

Reviewed by Skye



I had read some excellent reviews online so decided to give this book a go (also, I loved the cover!). The author's previous book, *The Truths and Triumphs of Grace Atherton* was a really popular title in the libraries, getting lots of loans and good feedback from borrowers.

Cate finds herself widowed, unemployed and unable to pay the rent on her London flat. The only option available for her and son Leo is to see the summer out in her late husband Richard's ancestral home - an old Victorian museum in the small village of Crouch-on-Sea. Richard had become estranged from his family, leaving Cate with little idea of what she and Leo can expect. They are greeted by a rundown and ramshackle museum of exotic animals arranged in elaborate dioramas, large lush gardens and a

beautiful glass domed library.

Caretaker, Araminta Buchan is seemingly unimpressed with the new arrivals, as she works to prevent the collection being divided and sold due to dwindling visitor numbers and the high cost of maintaining the buildings.

As Cate and Leo adjust to village life, the story of their life with Richard and journey through his illness is told with great compassion and heart. This book brilliantly describes and captures the complexities of relationships, addressing some heavier issues such as mental health and grief.

It was a moving, poignant but essentially heart-warming and uplifting tale, a story about the ups and downs of having a family, about second chances and never losing hope. The characters grow and evolve, the descriptions made your imagination soar and there was much depth hidden between the pages. I enjoyed this far more than I had anticipated, it would make an excellent summer read.

Interested in this title? Check out the library [catalogue](#)

This title is also available as an e-book